

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 HEW-06 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 DHA-02 SCA-01 SCSE-00 EB-07

IO-13 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 OPR-02

PER-03 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 FBOE-00 A-01

OC-06 CCO-00 /097 W

----- 041351

O 280800Z JUL 76

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6057

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS PEKING 1413

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: APER TPHY CH

SUBJECT: GENERAL SITUATION IN PEKING AS OF 1500 HOURS LOCAL JULY 28

REF: PEKING 1407

1. WE HAVE FELT NO FURTHER AFTERSHOCKS SINCE ABOUT 0900 HOURS.
2. USLO OFFICERS WHO TOURED REPRESENTATIVE QUARTERS OF PEKING AROUND 0400 HOURS, JUST AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE, AND AT INTERVALS SINCE HAVE SEEN REMARKABLY LITTLE DAMAGE ALL IN ALL, CONSIDERING THE SEVERITY OF THE INITIAL SHOCKS AND THE AGE OF MANY BUILDINGS. MOST OF THE VISIBLE SEVERE DAMAGE IS TO SOME STRUCTURES IN OLD RESIDENTIAL SECTIONS (E.G. THE "HUTUMGS")--WALL SECTIONS OF A FEW COMPOUNDS AND OF A FEW ONE AND TWO STORY BUILDINGS COLLAPSED ON TO THE STREET, FALLEN ROOF TILES. WE WOULD GUESS THE CASUALTY FIGURE IS LIGHT, AND THAT INJURIES AND ANY DEATHS OCCURRED PRIMARILY IN THOSE AREAS DURING THE INITIAL SHOCKS. NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEES APPEAR TO HAVE CLEAN-UP AND ANY NEEDED SPECIAL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WELL IN HAND.

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3. THERE IS HARDLY ANY NQCHOF

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WSLPGLTV (#)

TRANSPORTATION). HOWEVER MANY ENTERPRISES AND
GOVERNMENT OFFICES REPORTEDLY ARE OPERATING WITH ONLY SKELETON
CREWS, OWING TO THE POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER STRONG SHOCKS, AND
BIG STORES DOWNTOWN ARE CLOSED. (THE FRIENDSHIP STORE AND
INTERNATIONAL CLUB, USED BY FOREIGNERS, REMAIN OPEN.) ALSO
AS A SAFETY PRECAUTION, MANY NIEGHBORHOOD RESIDENTS ARE
REMAINING OUT OF DOORS, ESPECIALLY IN THE OLDER SECTIONS OF
TOWN, BUT SUCH CROWDS HAVE THINNED CONSIDERABLY SINCE THE RUSH
TO THE STREETS AT THE START OF THE QUAKE. IT HAS RAINED STEADILY

SINCE ABOUT 0900 HOURS.

4. KELLOGG HAS CONFIRMED WITH WORKSITES AT TSNACHOU (HOPEH),
PANCHIN (LIAONING) AND TACHING (HEILUNGKIANG) THAT NO
AMERICAN CIT PERSONNEL INJURED. SITES ALSO REPORT THAT MATERIAL
DAMAGE FROM EARTHQUAKE IN THESE AREAS SLIGHT.
GATES

NOTE BY OC/T: PEKING 1413 (#)AS RECEIVED. CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: SECSTATE WASHDC
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